

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

BASKETBALL

Knicks, Heat Work Out Deal On Riley

The New York Knicks and the Miami Heat have reportedly reached an agreement that would allow Pat Riley to become head coach of the Heat for the 1995-96 season.

The New York Daily News reported last week that the Knicks and Heat have reached an agreement in principle that would send a first round draft choice in 1996 to the Knicks as compensation for Riley.

Riley left the Knicks on June 15th with one year left on his five-year contract. Miami officials were quoted publicly on several occasions regarding their interest in Riley in their search for a head coach.

Knicks President Dave Checketts made it clear the Knicks would seek compensation if Riley coached for an N-B-A team in 1995-96 and filed tampering charges against the Heat.

NBA Commissioner David Stern held an Aug. 4th hearing on the tampering charges. Stern urged the teams to work out a settlement after hearing eight hours of testimony.

Shaq, Hakeem To Tangle One-On-One

Superstar centers Hakeem Olajuwon of the Houston Rockets and Shaquille O'Neal of the Orlando Magic will compete in a \$1 million pay-per-view one-on-one competition at Atlantic City, N.J., on Sept. 30.

The event will be staged at the Trump Taj Mahal Resort. It will be available to the public on Showtime Event Television with a suggested retail pay-per-view price of \$19.95 to \$29.95.

Olajuwon led the Rockets past O'Neal and the Magic in the NBA Finals to capture the league championship for the second consecutive year.

Leonard Armato, chairman and chief executive officer of Management Plus Enterprises, says Olajuwon and O'Neal will play 10 rounds for a total of \$100,000 per round.

According to the round rules announced by Armato, a tie in round will roll over the prize money to the next round. The player with the most money after 10 rounds will be declared the winner. If they are tied, a tiebreaker will be played for the title.

Seahawks' Warren Charged With Assault

Seattle Seahawks running back Chris Warren was recently charged with assaulting a woman outside a nightclub in Renton, Wash.

A Seattle woman alleges that Warren slapped her outside a nightclub on July 29th.

Warren, who led the A-F-C last season with 1,545 rushing yards last season, denied the charge. He faces up to four months in jail if convicted.

The allegations are the latest in a series of legal problems involving the Seahawks. Wide receiver Bennie Blades faces manslaughter charges over the death of his cousin, head coach Dennis Erickson was arrested on drunken driving charges and tailback Lamar Smith awaits a vehicular assault trial over an alcohol-related accident that left teammate Mike Frier paralyzed.

ASHE MONUMENT BUILT ON PRINCIPLES

Unlike in Richmond, where he grew up - a black in the long shadow of the Confederacy and Jim Crow laws - and where a controversy had recently raged about the erecting of a statue of him, a different kind of monument to Arthur Ashe, citizen of the world, existed Sunday at the National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows, Queens, New York.

It was the celebrity tennis tournament played in his name, the day before the start of the U.S. Open.

The lighthearted tennis played under the hot midday sun - participants on the Stadium Court included such players and non-players as John McEnroe, Martina Navratilova, Stan Smith, Nick Lowery of the Jets, the former Knick Doc Rivers, and Bill Cosby and Alan King, as co-emcees, co-umpires, co-coaches and, being comedians, co-cutups - belied the depth and gravity of the cause.

Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe, Arthur's widow, presented a check for \$1 million in the name of the Arthur Ashe Endowment for the Defeat of AIDS to New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.

"AIDS is in the same position as polio was, and tuberculosis, and cancer, when I was growing up in the '40s and '50s," Cosby said. "People still want to keep it hush-hush. People still have prejudices about it."

Regarding Sen. Robert Dole's return of a campaign contribution from a group of gay Republicans, Cosby said, "The last person you can embarrass is a politician."

Ashe committed himself to the education and eradication of AIDS after he announced in 1992 that he had contracted the disease from a blood transfusion during heart surgery several years earlier.

But it was only one of many of his concerns and pursuits. Besides being the lone black male to win Wimbledon or the U.S. Open, Ashe took courageous positions on apartheid in South Africa, racism in America and the emphasis for blacks in particular of school books over ball games.

"We all know that Arthur was far more than a tennis player and an athlete," said Rivers. "There have been very few like him. You'd have to include Muhammad Ali. And Jackie Robinson. People who would have been true role models even if they hadn't played sports."

"But you had to admire Arthur in the way he conducted his life. He took tough stands that I know hurt him commercially, but he didn't care. And he wouldn't back down. He always took the morally right position, not the 'me' point of view."

It is just that position that had caused controversy in Virginia. A proposal earlier this year in the Richmond Planning Commission met with great debate over whether a statue of Ashe should be placed on Monument

statue (about two stories high) would pale in comparison to, say, Lee's, at 61 feet (about five stories high), it would still be in a place where Ashe, as a lad, often felt uncomfortable.

It had been a segregated city in which Ashe was unable to play on the segregated tennis courts, and so he left as a senior in high school to pursue his education and tennis career.

Some Richmond citizens unfortunately thought Ashe shouldn't be honored at all because he left the city and didn't return, except for family visits. Others thought he was too good for Monument Avenue, where, if those honored had won, there might never have been an Arthur Ashe as we know him.

Some thought that Ashe's idea of wearing tennis sweats - Ashe had been consulted about the statue before he died and had helped design it - was disgraceful and defiled the memory of the mounted, weapon-bearing, medal-massed soldiers.

Others thought his statue, with three books held high in one hand while a tennis racket symbolically is held lower in the other hand (Ashe's idea) sends just the right message.

Still Others said the statue should be placed in the black neighborhood where he grew up.

At the open hearing, another

suggested that the statue be placed beside a tennis court.

"And then someone in the balcony, just a citizen, said something that turned the whole argument, I think," said Thomas Chewning, the co-chairman of the Ashe statue campaign in Richmond, and a white contemporary of Ashe's who didn't get a chance to play with or against him until they met as teen-agers in a tournament in West Virginia. "The person said, 'But if we put it at a tennis court, that would signify that we were honoring Arthur Ashe as a tennis player, and not as a great man. In this city, the great men are memorialized on Monument Avenue.'"

Ground was broken on Monument Avenue last month for the statue of Ashe, who died on Feb. 6, 1993.

In his autobiography, "Days of Grace," written with Arnold Rampersad and published posthumously, Ashe said:

"In this racial divide, I often find myself critical of both whites and blacks. In the end, I am not for black or white, nor even for the United States of America, but for the whole of humanity. I can't define myself finally as an African American, or an American. My humanity comes first. I have felt that way since I have known myself, and I hope to die that way."

"We all know that Arthur was far more than a tennis player and an athlete,"

Doc Rivers

Avenue, the symbolic heart of the city, which was the capital of the Confederacy.

Other statues along the avenue include those of Robert E. Lee, Jeb Stuart, Stonewall Jackson and Jefferson Davis, generals and leaders of the rebel forces.

While Ashe's proposed 24-foot

TIGER WOODS TAKES 2ND AMATEUR

When he won last year's U.S. Amateur in the humidity of a Florida summer, Tiger Woods was hailed as the best African-American golfer the United States had ever produced.

Now, after successfully defending his U.S. Amateur title here Sunday, at the same historic Newport Country Club that was the host for America's first championship 100 years ago, some are wondering if the 19-year-old Woods isn't the best male amateur golfer his country has ever produced.

Woods, from Cypress, Calif., won on a cool, calm, overcast day by storming back from an early three-hole deficit to defeat George "Buddy" Marucci, 43, an automobile dealer from Berwyn, Pa., in the 36-hole final, two up.

Woods, who clinched the victory with a brilliant second shot on the final hole, was characteristically low-key after the match. "I played well all week, kept my focus and was very patient," he said. "I couldn't ask for any more than that."

But Marucci, who was playing in his 16th U.S. Amateur in a career

dating back nearly a quarter-century, was more lavish in his praise. "I think Tiger is certainly the best athlete this level of golf has ever seen," said Marucci. "He's lean, strong and has a marvelous golf swing. He doesn't take a beat back to anybody." Certainly not in the last five years. Woods won the U.S. Junior Amateur championship an unprecedented three years in a row beginning in 1991, and by triumphing here he became only the ninth player in history to win back-to-back U.S. Amateurs. Woods, who has yet to begin his sophomore year at Stanford University, now has a lifetime match-play record of 36-3 in U.S. Golf Association events, and his five USGA titles ties him for third with Jay Sigel and Jerry Travers on the all-time list, behind Bobby Jones (nine) and Jack Nicklaus (eight).

But neither Jones, Nicklaus, Sigel nor Travers ever won this championship twice as a teen-ager. And all four would have been hard-pressed to duplicate the finishing kick Woods produced here.

Locked in a fierce struggle throughout the day with Marucci, the

heavily favored Woods had an approximate score of 65, 5 under par, for his last 18 holes.

Still, he came to the last hole, a 380-yard par 4, protecting a one-up lead. After Marucci had hit his approach to 25 feet, Woods hit a towering 8-iron from 140 yards directly over the flagstick, and it spun back to within 18 inches of the hole.

After missing his birdie attempt, Marucci conceded Woods' birdie putt.

The final was a showcase of vastly different styles. The fist-pumping Woods, who hits his shots enormously long and high - one of his drives was measured at 379 yards - constantly tried to attack the course like a PGA Tour player.

Conversely, Marucci, who has a much shorter game than Woods, played with the patient demeanor of a club golfer (in fact, Marucci belongs to Merion, Pine Valley and Seminole, three of the country's most exclusive country clubs), content to hit bounce-and-run shots shaped to Newport Country Club's rolling, links-style terrain.

MATHIS PICKED AS NEXT TYSON OPPONENT

Boxing promoter Don King has confirmed what had been rumored all along: Buster Mathis will be Mike Tyson's next opponent - probably.

In a typical rambling King press conference, the promoter said Mathis "is our first choice" to fight Tyson in his next fight, on Nov. 4 at the MGM Grand, but added that International Boxing Federation cruiserweight champion Al Cole and Nate Miller "are also under consideration."

Later in the press conference, Tyson's co-manager, John Horne said: "It is going to be Buster Mathis, unless you find someone better for us." King then said: "Mike Tyson will fight Buster Mathis on Nov. 4."

Mathis is ranked fourth by the International Boxing Federation but unranked by the World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association.

In a bout he was losing badly to former world champion Riddick Bowe last summer, Mathis was saved by a "no contest" ruling when he was hit in the fourth round while on his knees. The light-hitting Mathis is 20-

0 with six inside the distance.

Tyson's return after serving a three-year prison term for rape has other boxers and promoters salivating at the prospect of big money.

At the press conference and on radio shows, King has allowed the possibility of a Tyson fight with popular but 46-year-old George Foreman.

When King was asked about a proposal from rival promoter Bob Arum to enlist former Caesars World chairman of the board Henry Gluck to help put together a match against Foreman, King told the news conference: "Henry Gluck isn't needed. I can deal effectively with Bob Arum."

King also said he had been approached by "third parties" saying they were representing Foreman without Arum. "I am not the best of friends with Bob Arum," thundered King. "but he's a professional and I trust him. I would not do a Foreman fight without him."

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Event Dates: September 10 & 11, 1995
Sports Action Entry Forms are available at LSC locations

Pacific Time	Selection		Underdog Point Spread
	FAVORITE	UNDERDOG	
Sun 9/10			
10:00 am	1 Miami	2 NEW ENGLAND	+1 1/2
10:00 am	3 Pittsburgh	4 HOUSTON	+5 1/2
10:00 am	5 KANSAS CITY	6 New Jersey	+6 1/2
10:00 am	7 MINNESOTA	8 Detroit	+2 1/2
10:00 am	9 Oakland	10 WASHINGTON	+5 1/2
10:00 am	11 CLEVELAND	12 Tampa Bay	+8 1/2
10:00 am	13 ST. LOUIS	14 New Orleans	+2 1/2
10:00 am	15 BUFFALO	16 Carolina	+9 1/2
1:00 pm	17 DALLAS	18 Denver	+10 1/2
1:00 pm	19 SAN FRANCISCO	20 Atlanta	+13 1/2
1:00 pm	21 SAN DIEGO	22 Seattle	+9 1/2
1:00 pm	23 Indianapolis	24 NEW YORK	+2 1/2
1:00 pm	25 CINCINNATI	26 Jacksonville	+8 1/2
Sun 9/10 SPECIAL PLAY GAME			
5:00 pm	27 PHOENIX	28 Philadelphia	+3 1/2
Total Points Scored by both teams during ENTIRE GAME			
29 Over 35 1/2		30 Under 35 1/2	
Mon 9/11 SPECIAL PLAY GAME			
6:00 pm	31 CHICAGO	32 Green Bay	+3 1/2
Total Points Scored by both teams during ENTIRE GAME			
33 Over 38 1/2		34 Under 38 1/2	
Total Interceptions made by both teams during ENTIRE GAME			
35 Over 2 1/2		36 Under 2 1/2	

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